

Town of Chebeague Island  
Shellfish Conservation Commission Meeting

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January 2, 9am

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At the Town Office/Public Safety Building

Meeting minutes

Present: Board members Gary Ross, Cecil Doughty, Jessie Russo, Bob Earnest; Shellfish Warden Ron Tozier on phone; Town employees Eric Dyer, Michelle Jackson; Public Chip Corson, Jenifer Howard

1. Call meeting to order.
2. Nominate an acting chairperson. Cecil nominated Bob; Gary seconded; unanimous.
3. Approval of prior minutes of 4/22/2011. Moved, seconded, unanimous.
4. Public Comment. None at this time.
5. Shellfish Warden Report.
  - a. DMR late on process for allocation form. Changes in personnel at DMR. New procedure: review number of commercial licenses; if we recommend a change, then it would require approval (DMR then Selectboard). If we recommend no change, it would also require approval. Joint session with DMR soon; date/time TBA; topics will include maintenance and improvement of flats and predator program (green crab traps and snail approaches) for which funding might be available; also potential discussion on seed retention. Cricks being reviewed; will likely be opened soon. Chandlers is open per DMR; needs approval by this committee, then Selectboard. Bates: new system in the works for the septic there; potential opening later?
6. To have the Commission discuss and possibly act on the following:
  1. Allocation of license categories and number of licenses to be issued.
    - a. Discussion: clam resource is under pressure; sense of the group is that we should not increase the number of licenses. Motion to maintain same number of commercial licenses: motion by Jessie, second by Gary. Passes unanimous.
  2. Authorize Shellfish Warden to send request to Department of Marine Resources. Motion by Gary; second by Jessie; passes unanimously. **Ron** to send this request.
  3. License fees. Discussion: Cecil opined that the Town of Chebeague is much lower fees than surrounding towns. But, in the interest of expediency, Cecil motioned that we keep the same rates. Seconded by Jessie; passes unanimous. So: this committee recommends to Town Clerk that we maintain same rates.
7. To have the Commission discuss and possibly act on the following:
  - a. Date and time licenses will be sold, and

- b. Time licenses will be sold and lottery to be held.
  - c. Note: Michelle has advertised sale of licenses to begin 12:30pm 1/3/2013; this is fine with the sense of the committee.
8. To have the Commission discuss and possibly act on openings and closures.
    - a. Discussion on closing the Cove at Indian Island; a logical approach might be to recommend a closure that would begin on the same date as the expected opening of the Cricks. Motion: that this Committee recommend to the Selectboard: a) opening of the Cricks and Chandlers on approval from DMR; and b) closing of the Cove at the Hook on the same day. Seconded by Jessie; approved unanimously. **Bob** to pass this recommendation on to the Selectboard.
  9. Discussion: should we wait till after new members arrive before electing a new chair?  
Sense of the committee: yes, let's wait.
  10. Nomination of Chip to be a member of this committee by Cecil; seconded by Gary; passes unanimously; **Bob** to pass this recommendation on to the Selectboard.
  11. Next meeting: **Ron** to advise when we can get DMR out here; we will then schedule our next meeting, at which (among other things) budget requests.
  12. Adjourn meeting. Moved, seconded, unanimous.

Assignments are shown in **bold**.